



**BRANCH 50  
KITCHENER**

**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION FRED GIES BRANCH 50**



# ***THE DUGOUT***

***April May 2023***

## **PRESIDENT REPORT – CHRIS PICKERING**

Greetings Comrades.

Welcome back, hopefully we can get back to normal this time and make this a regular event, which is important because this is a vital way of getting information out to you the members. Please make sure our office has your up-to-date address and email to ensure you receive your copy.

Elections are coming up and as the movie goes "We are looking for a few good members" who are willing to volunteer their time and knowledge for very little in return, except knowing that you are helping our Veterans and Members have a happy, viable, and functioning branch to use.

The First Vice President and myself are available to answer any questions you may have regarding different positions on the Executive Committee that you may be interested in.

This past year has been a difficult one with Command ordering the B O T into the branch, but good has come out of it as we now have an up-to-date Quickbooks reporting system that ensures that every cent is accounted for and all the rumours that we were losing money were false. Many thanks to Anne and Kirby for their time and knowledge in helping Peter and the branch overcome the hurdles in administering this new system.

It has taken a while but our Treasurer has finally got all our Lottery licences reinstalled and the lotteries are up and running.

Our Veterans Dinner went very well but unfortunately, we had more Vets than seats available so some missed out. I most sincerely apologize if you were one that didn't get invited, we will try to do better next year. Thank you to all who volunteered their time and energy to ensure the event went well.

Carl Buder is bringing his Gospel Sundays to the Branch so come on out and sing your favourite Gospel song and lift up our hearts with songs of praise.

See you there,

***LEST WE  
FORGET***

***REMEMBER!***

***IT'S NOT  
WHAT YOU  
PAY TO BE A  
MEMBER.***

***IT'S WHAT  
THEY PAID TO  
LET YOU.***



## **1<sup>st</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT – ERNIE BREMNER**

First of all, I would like to thank Gail Bourhill for taking on the responsibility of the Dugout. Once again, we can keep our members up to date on events and important information about our Branch. Membership- Previous year voting was 356 members. The status of the Branch's membership

as of 2023 – 02 – 28 is as follows life member 1, ordinary 66, associate 136, affiliate 97, and affiliate non voting 2. As you can see by the number of ordinary members, we have we need to actively seek veterans to join our Branch.

Nationally the 3rd week of September is Legion week. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring a new spotlight to our organization to show the tremendous work our Branch volunteers do. Stay tuned for more details. Your Royal Canadian Legion is committed to making a difference in the lives of veterans and their families by providing essential services in our communities and remembering the men and women who sacrificed for our country.

## **TREASURER REPORT – PETER WHITEHALL**

Hello Comrades

Branch #50 has gone through some major changes over the past year, the most significant of which was changing our accounting system. We are now working with the new system and everything is continuing to improve. The fiscal year started off well with the Branch making a profit for almost all of the early months. Unfortunately, as is almost always the case, the Branch suffered significant losses in both January and February of the new year. These losses are mostly due to all the extra costs with the cold weather and snow. Fortunately, Spring is coming, with better weather and Branch 50 is still in the black.

With your help and support, we are looking to continue this trend in the future.

Please continue to support Branch 50 and bring in your friends as well.

## **SECRETARY REPORT – RAYMONDE HACHEY**

Elections are coming up. Hopefully we have new members that will step up. We will be having a garage sale sometime in May. The best evening event at Branch 50 is Tuesday, dinner at 5:30 p.m. and karaoke at 6:30 p.m. If you want to sign or listen to some really amazing singers, please come out and check it out.

## **WAYS & MEANS – ROSE COSTA**

The meat spins every Saturday are doing well. Come join us. Tickets go on sale at 3:00 p.m. for \$5.00 each. The spins are done at 4:00 p.m..

Our 50/50 tickets go on sale at the same time – 3:00 p.m. \$2.00 for 3 tickets and \$5.00 for 9 tickets.

Our Rainy Day Fund has started up again. Tickets are \$2.00, 1 ticket per day. The draw is to be held at the end of month at our Meat Spin, at 4:00 p.m. You must be a member to win.

Karaoke and the dinners are doing good. Come out and have a great meal. The meals cost \$13.00 or a take-out for \$8.00. Enjoy karaoke after the meal with Carl Buder. It's always a success. See pictures.



### **SENIORS GROUP – ROSE COSTA**

Seniors are doing great, having fun playing games and having pot lucks. They have around 15 people attending. Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month. The money they raise will go towards flowers for the patio.

### **SPORTS REPORT – DON GINGRICH**

The Provincial cribbage tournament was held March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Hespeler. One team – Gail Bourhill, Deb Howard, Ron Drake and Dan Shirk placed a close 2<sup>nd</sup>, and will be the alternates for Dominion finals.

The District euchre tournament was held February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Hespeler. 2 teams from our branch placed 5<sup>th</sup> (Gail Bourhill, Deb Howard, Ron Drake and Dan Shirk) and 6<sup>th</sup> (Don Gingrich, Rose Costa, Raymonde Hachey and Mike Buck). They go to Alliston on May 6, 2023 for the Provincials.

All weekly in-house sports are going well, as well as the Wednesday night Rec. league pool.

### **HOUSE AND GROUNDS – DON GINGRICH**

Estimates are in the process of being done for line painting in the parking lot, rollup blinds and highbar lowering.

We will work on moving the shed in the spring to facilitate adding the kitchen, which we desperately need to get ahead of the game!

Stay tuned!

### **POPPY CAMPAIGN – MIKE BUCK**

Our next Poppy meeting will be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. I would like to thank Don Gingrich for all his assistance during the last Poppy campaign. I would also like to thank the drivers and counters of the money. A special thank you to Brian Stavenow for the funds he brought in.

### **YOUTH & EDUCATION – CAROL GABRIEL**

Hi Comrades.

I would like to say welcome back to our Dugout.

I would like to let all of you know about our Poster and Literacy contest. We have students from different schools who participate. They do black and white and coloured posters. They do poems and essays. We judge and pick winners and they go on to Zone to have winners picked. We had 7 from our Legion that won and we have 2 who went on to District and won 1<sup>st</sup> place. We are very proud of all of the students who participated and won.

To us, they are all winners and would like to thank one and all. Thank you.



**BRANCH 50 EXECUTIVE**

President	Chris Pickering
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President – Security	Ernie Bremner
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Vacant
Treasurer	Peter Whitehall
Branch Secretary	Raymonde Hachey
Sergeant At Arms	Vacant
Membership	Ernie Bremner
Poppy Campaign	Mike Buck
Youth Education	Carol Gabriel
Sports	Don Gingrich
House & Grounds	Don Gingrich
Ways & Means	Rose Costa
Sick & Visiting	Jay Oswald
Honors & Awards	Carol Gabriel
Seniors	Rose Costa

**Reminder Recycle Information – YOU CAN HELP**

We collect Pop cans, pop tabs, eye glasses, Canadian Tire money and toiletries for veterans at Sunnyside Nursing Home and Parkwood Hospital.

Please remove the tabs from the pop cans before depositing them in the recycle bin and bring in the tabs in a separate container. The pop cans will be donated to the Waterloo Shriners Aluminum Can Recycling Program and the tabs will be sent to the Elora Legion for their Wheelchair Program. Over 3,000 wheelchairs have been purchased through this program so far.

**Branch 50 VOLUNTEERS**

Chaplain  
Dugout

Canon Pratt  
Gail Bourhill

**Kitchen**

Peter Whitehall      Rose Costa  
Gail Bourhill          Don Gingrich



For entertainment, food preparation and cleanup for karaoke night, pool tournaments, etc. Please drop us a note in the suggestion box or email [gailbour@hotmail.com](mailto:gailbour@hotmail.com) Thank you.



**PLEASE SEND MY DUGOUT VIA E-MAIL**



Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Royal Canadian Legion  
Fred Gies (Branch 50) Ontario

Email: [royalcanadianlegion1@bellnet.ca](mailto:royalcanadianlegion1@bellnet.ca)

Online: <http://kitchenerlegionbranch50.ca>



**VETERANS DINNER**  
**JANUARY 29, 2023**





# PHOTO GALLERY

## KARAOKE NIGHTS AND DINNERS



## POOL TOURNAMENT



## DISTRICT EUCHRE – FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>, HESPELER LEGION

Euchre



## PROVINCIAL CRIBBAGE – MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>, HESPELER LEGION





## April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> Cribbage Noon Meat Spin & 50/50 3:00 pm
<b>2</b> Carl Buder Gospel Event 1:00 – 6:00 pm Arden Court 8:00 pm	<b>3</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 Pool 6:30 pm Darts 7:00 pm	<b>4</b> Karaoke & dinner 5:30 pm	<b>5</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 Shuffle Board 7:00 pm	<b>6</b> Euchre 1:00 pm Pool 7:00 pm Euchre 7:00 pm	<b>7</b> Solo 1:00 pm Ladies Darts 7:00 pm	<b>8</b> Meat Spin & 50/50 3:00 pm Trailers Band 8:00 – 11:00 pm
<b>9</b> Seniors Meeting 2:00 – 5:00 pm	<b>10</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 pm Pool 6:30 pm Darts 7:00 pm	<b>11</b> Karaoke & dinner 5:30 pm	<b>12</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 pm Shuffle Board 7:00 pm	<b>13</b> Euchre 1:00 pm Pool 7:00 pm Euchre 7:00 pm	<b>14</b> Solo 1:00 pm Ladies Darts 7:00 pm	<b>15</b> Meat Spin & 50/50 3:00 pm
<b>16</b> Andy Parker Blues Band	<b>17</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 Pool 6:30 pm Darts 7:00 pm	<b>18</b> Karaoke & dinner 5:30 pm	<b>19</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 Shuffle Board 7:00 pm	<b>20</b> Euchre 1:00 pm Pool 7:00 pm Euchre 7:00 pm	<b>21</b> Solo 1:00 pm Ladies Darts 7:00 pm	<b>22</b> Meat Spin & 50/50 3:00 pm
<b>23</b> General Meeting 2:00 pm	<b>24</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 Pool 6:30 pm Darts 7:00 pm	<b>25</b> Karaoke & dinner 5:30 pm	<b>26</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 Shuffle Board 7:00 pm	<b>27</b> Euchre 1:00 pm Pool 7:00 pm Euchre 7:00 pm	<b>28</b> Solo 1:00 pm Ladies Darts 7:00 pm	<b>29</b> Meat Spin & 50/50 3:00 pm
<b>30</b>						



May 2023						
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<b>7</b> Honours & Awards 1:00 – 4:00 pm	<b>8</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 pm Pool 6:30 pm Darts 7:00 pm	<b>9</b> Karaoke & dinner 5:30 pm	<b>10</b> Bid Euchre 1:00 Shuffle Board 7:00 pm	<b>11</b> Euchre 1:00 pm Pool 7:00 pm Euchre 7:00 pm	<b>12</b> Solo 1:00 pm Ladies Darts 7:00 pm	<b>13</b> Meat Spin & 50/50 3:00 pm
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